

April 16, 1998

TO: Members of the MAG Transportation Review Committee

FROM: Jim Matteson, Phoenix, Chairman

SUBJECT: MEETING NOTIFICATION AND TENTATIVE AGENDA

Tuesday, April 28, 1998, 10:00 a.m.
MAG Office, Suite 200, Saguaro Room
302 North 1st Avenue, Phoenix

The next meeting of the MAG Transportation Review Committee (TRC) will be held at the time and place noted above. **Please park in the garage under the building. Bring your ticket to the meeting as parking will be validated. Bicycles can be locked in the rack at the entrance to the parking garage.** If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Terry Johnson or John Farry at 254-6300.

Please be advised that under procedures adopted by the MAG Regional Council on June 26, 1996, all MAG committees need to have a quorum in order to conduct business. A quorum is a simple majority of the membership or nine people for the MAG TRC. If you are unable to attend the meeting, please make arrangements for a proxy from your jurisdiction to represent you.

TENTATIVE AGENDA

<u>TENTATIVE AGENDA</u>		<u>COMMITTEE ACTION REQUESTED</u>
1.	<u>Call to Order</u>	
2.	<u>Approval of Minutes of March 24, 1998 and March 31, 1998</u>	2. Approve minutes of March 24, 1998 and March 31, 1998.
3.	<u>Approval of Consent Agenda</u> Committee members can request that an item be removed from the consent agenda. Consent items are marked with an asterisk.	3. For information, discussion and possible action to approve the Consent Agenda.

ITEMS FOR CONSENT

*4. Value Lane Study

In January 1998, the MAG Regional Council approved partnering with Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) to undertake a Value Lane Study for the MAG Freeway System. The Study will include an analysis to update plans for High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) facilities and to assess the feasibility of High Occupancy Toll (HOT) lanes. A Steering Committee with ADOT, Regional Public Transportation Authority (RPTA), and MAG staff will provide internal review of this project. It is proposed that overall input will be provided by the TRC with participation by representatives from ADOT, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and the Department of Public Safety (DPS).

A draft Request for Proposals (RFP) has been prepared. A copy of this draft is available on request.

*5. Red Letter Notifications

In February 1995, the Regional Council approved a Red Letter Process in with MAG member agencies notify ADOT of potential development activities in freeway alignments, including actions on plans, zoning and permits. The purpose of this process is to coordinate actions to help prevent new development from being built in the future freeway right-of-way. The last notifications received from ADOT were in July 1997. The current notifications are included in Attachment A.

*6. Citizen Transportation Oversight Committee 1997 Annual Report

The Citizens Transportation Oversight Committee (CTOC) met seven times in 1997. Critical issues that were addressed by

4. For information, discussion and possible action.

5. For information and discussion.

6. For information, discussion and possible action.

the Committee included: (1) Landscape Guidelines, (2) Financial Compliance Audit, (3) Regional Freeway Performance Audit, (4) Proposed changes to CTOC law, (5) Mitigation for loss of recreational lands, and (6) Life Cycle Program review. A copy of the CTOC 1997 Annual Report is available on request.

*7. Status Report on ADOT I-10 Phoenix to Tucson Gateway Corridor Profile Study

ADOT is conducting a corridor profile study for Interstate 10. The Study limits are from Central Avenue in Phoenix, to Congress Street in Tucson. The Study will include all travel modes and has the following work tasks and schedule: Task 1, Agency Coordination; Task 2, Inventory and Analysis of Existing and Projected Needs and Deficiencies; Task 3, Identification and Analysis of Feasible Investment Options and Management Actions; Task 4, Public Involvement; Task 5, Final Report Preparation. TransCore has been selected to conduct the Study for ADOT. A copy of the scope of work is available on request.

7. For information, discussion and possible action.

ITEMS TO BE HEARD

8. Upcoming Management Agenda Items

The next meeting of the MAG Management Committee will be held on May 13, 1998. Potential agenda items for this meeting will be reviewed by MAG staff.

9. Report by MAG Freeway Program Management

MAG Freeway Program Management will address potential issues related to the Freeway Life Cycle Program. The status of the preferred alignment for the Red Mountain Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be addressed.

8. For information and discussion.

9. For information and discussion.

10. Material Change Policy for the MAG Regional Freeway Program

The 1997 Performance Audit for the MAG Regional Freeway Program recommended that MAG and ADOT develop a definition of “material change.” Changes to the Regional Freeway Program that meets the definition of material change would be reviewed and approved by the MAG Regional Council. Currently, all proposed changes are processed through the Regional Council. An ad hoc group with representatives from both ADOT and MAG met to discuss the issue and to prepare a draft material change definition. The definition also includes language to clarify changes that comprise enhancements under state law. If a local government requests an enhancement to a project, the local government will be obligated to pay the full cost of the enhancement. The policy specifies that ADOT should ensure that the design elements of each new segment meet generally accepted engineering and design standards based on traffic volumes and patterns, the need to serve major public facilities, and the need to provide a balance, multimodal transportation system for Maricopa County. The draft of the material change definition is included as Attachment B.

11. Status Report on Submittal of Finance Forms and Highway Performance Management System Data

MAG is required by ADOT and the Federal government to assist in the collection of Federal Finance Form FHWA 536 and Highway Performance Monitoring System (HPMS) data. This data is used at a regional level for forecasting and financial planning. At a national level, it is used to determine regional transportation needs.

On March 23, 1998, MAG member agencies

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were sent a letter and computer disks to facilitate the collection of data for HPMS. Member agencies were requested to provide local street mileage data for the HPMS by April 10, 1998 and the remaining HPMS data by April 24, 1998. Completed 536 Forms are due April 15, 1998. MAG staff will provide a status report.

12. PM-10 Control Measures for Unpaved Roads and Shoulders

Unpaved roads and shoulders are a major contributor to PM-10 (particulates) in the MAG region. MAG is developing a Serious Area PM-10 plan for the region. Major commitments by local jurisdictions to control road dust are needed by July 31, 1998. Commitments to paving unpaved roads, shoulders and local access points to arterials may be necessary to meet standards.

In addition, EPA is in the process of promulgating a Moderate Area Federal Implementation Plan for the region. This requires owners of unpaved public roads (with volumes of 150 or more vehicles per day) to pave, chemically stabilize or apply gravel to these roads by June 10, 2000. EPA is required to survey fugitive dust source and control measures (see Attachment C pages 15937 and 15938).

Legislation is pending that will require local jurisdictions to develop plans to control road related PM-10 (see Attachment D, page 11). As part of new PM-10 road related efforts, MAG consultants are in the process of preparing guidelines on the cost effectiveness of alternative approaches. Factors include type of measure, traffic volumes, traffic speed, ambient concentrations and soil conditions. MAG staff is in the process of mapping related factors by jurisdiction. The MAG Street Committee will be requested to review information on unpaved roads and arterial shoulder conditions. Cathy Arthur,

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MAG staff, will be available to discuss this topic in more detail.

13. 303 Status Report and Right-of-Way Deed Restrictions

The Estrella Freeway was added to the MAG Freeway System for right-of-way protection by Regional Council action in July 1985. The facility was later included in the Regional Freeway System as the last priority for construction. With the failure of Proposition 300 in 1994, the Estrella Freeway was removed from MAG freeway plans because of the lack of funding.

The existing north-south leg of the Estrella two lane facility was built as an interim freeway facility on 300 feet of dedicated right-of-way. ADOT has given notice to abandon plans for the Estrella Freeway (SR 303). This has implications for the right-of-way dedications for the existing north-south leg of the Estrella facility between Grand Avenue and Thomas Road. The County is planning to operate this roadway and has programmed funds for connection to I-10 and a grade separation at Grand.

The MAG Northwest Transportation Study prompted actions to modify street plans in the Northwest Valley area, and to abandon the east/west leg of the Estrella freeway. MCDOT has programmed a road facility in this area between Grand Avenue and Lake Pleasant Road, and is considering developing a connection to I-10 via Lake Pleasant Road and the Carefree Highway. However, deed restrictions for the old east/west leg of the Estrella Freeway remain and are affecting development activity. These issues will be discussed by MCDOT and ADOT staff.

13. For information, discussion and possible action.

14. HOV Connections at the SR 51/Loop 202/I-10 Interchange

A recent report by Stanley Consultants for ADOT, recommends that the direction of the High Occupancy Vehicle ramp connections at the SR 51/Loop 202/I-10 interchange be north/south. This connection has higher volumes than the north/east and north/west connections (see Attachment E).

Another point of view is that HOV connections from north to west would allow express buses direct access into the deck park terminal. Express bus access, light rail connections and downtown development are important long range policy considerations. The engineering feasibility of north to west (and west to north). HOV connections has not been addressed. ADOT and RPTA staff will be invited to discuss this issue.

15. Legislative Update

TRC Committee members will be apprized of issues related to transportation facilities and funding that are under consideration by the Legislature.

16. Report on Transit Issues

Report on recent transit activity will be made by RPTA staff. This will include an update on the status of the Central Phoenix/East Valley Major Investment Study (MIS), as well as the Phoenix/Glendale MIS.

17. ISTEA Status Report on Reauthorization

The U.S. Senate and House of Representatives have passed separate versions of legislation to reauthorize ISTEA. A conference committee has been established with House and Senate members to settle the differences in the bills. Staff will provide information on any new developments in the reauthorization process.

14. For information, discussion and possible action.

15. For information and discussion.

16. For information and discussion.

17. For information and discussion.

18. Status Report on Process for the Selection of Projects for MAG Federal Funds

A special meeting of the TRC was held on March 31, 1998 to discuss the process for the selection of projects for MAG federal funds. Information was requested on expenditures by mode and process used by other Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO). Discussion addressed policy and procedural issues as well as the need for modal allocations. A special meeting to address this topic in more detail is scheduled for May 5, 1998 at 10:00 a.m. in the MAG Office, Ocotillo Room.

19. Next Meeting Dates

The next regularly TRC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 26, 1998 at 10:00 a.m. in the MAG Office, Saguaro Room.

18. For information and discussion.

19. For information.